

COMMITMENT



Texas Department of Health
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

August 2000

Volume 9, Number 8

BCCCP Summer Training Set on Two Primary Topics

The agenda for the upcoming Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) Summer Training has been set. The agenda is comprised of two primary topics. The agenda includes the revised national and state cervical cancer screening and diagnostic policies. Also included are the changes in the quality assurance and monitoring policies and procedures resulting from BCCCP's move to the Associateship for Community Health and Resources Development.

The cervical cancer policy portion of the agenda is divided into three segments:

1. *Epidemiological Justification* - the epidemiological factors that are the basis for a change in the cervical cancer policy at the national level;

2. *BCCCP Policies and Protocols* - the changes in standards, policies, and protocols at the state level resulting from the national program policies; and,
3. *Data Collection and Billing* - related data collection and billing issues.

The Quality Assurance and Monitoring segment of the summer training will include policy and procedure information pertaining to

the on-site program monitoring duties which will be conducted by the Associateship's Quality Assurance (QA) Monitoring Division staff.

Registration for the training begins at 8:15 a.m. for the Austin, Dallas and Houston trainings and at 12:30 p.m. for El Paso and Harlingen. There will be time for questions and

*Summer Training
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Komen Race for the Cure helps to fund breast cancer research nationally and locally, with 75% of the proceeds remaining in the local community where the Race is held. Texas races:

Date	Location	Contact	Phone
Saturday, September 23, 2000	Lubbock	Affiliate Office	806-765-5281
Saturday, October 7, 2000	Amarillo	Tracy Dougherty	806-356-1913
Saturday, October 7, 2000	Houston	Affiliate Office	713-783-9188
Saturday, October 14, 2000	Wichita Falls	Susan Morris	940-761-7822
Saturday, October 21, 2000	Dallas	Race Office	214-750-7223
Saturday, October 21, 2000	Texarkana	Judy Morgan	903-792-0134
Sunday, November 5, 2000	Austin	Race Hotline	512-427-4833

New Reimbursement Rates/CPT Codes For Pap Tests

Effective September 1, 2000, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) will have new reimbursement rates and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for Pap test screening services. The CPT code 88141 is

only used when physician interpretation is needed in the event of an abnormal or reparative slide result. The new rate for this service will be \$25.59.

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BCCCP Briefs

Announcement

Congratulations to Andrea Littlefield who is leaving BCCCP to be the new Director of Development for Texas Hillel at the University of Texas.

New Web Site

The web site "Myths and Misperceptions about Aging and Women's Health" focuses on health issues affecting women ages 45-64. The site was developed by the National Council on the Aging and the Myths and Misperceptions about Aging and Women's Health Coalition. This site contains information about several health conditions including breast cancer, heart disease, and osteoporosis. You can access this site at <http://www.womenshealth-aging.org>.

Who to Call & How to Reach Us...

General Information/Administration:

Robert Reeves Cathy Cox
Shana Quintanilla

Professional Education, Clinical Services, Case Management:

Karen Knox Karen McAnarney
Claudia Himes

Public Information and Outreach:

Clare Wolf

Data Forms, Collection and Maintenance:

Vincent Crawley Codie Prinz
Wanda Gibson Steve Johnson
June Browning Constance Holloway

Data Collection Forms

Wanda Gibson

Billing:

Kathy Kokel Codie Prinz

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Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program
1100 West 49th Street, G407
Austin, TX 78756-3199
(512) 458-7644
(800) 452-1955
(512) 458-7650 FAX
email: robert.reeves (or other staff first name, period and last name)@tdh.state.tx.us

Website Address

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bcccp/>

Local Changes

Please write or call Cathy Cox, Administrative Technician, at (800) 452-1955 with **ANY** changes in local telephone numbers, personnel or service delivery sites. *Thank you.*

Tell-A-Friend Helps Save Lives

Help spread the word about the importance of early detection. Throughout the year, the American Cancer Society (ACS) will be sponsoring Tell-A-Friend. The Tell-A-Friend campaign will kick-off on October 6, 2000. Tell-A-Friend has been very effective in reaching women and reinforcing the message of the importance of getting mammograms. Tell-A-Friend hopes to reach minority women and women who are least likely to get regular mammograms.

Tell-A-Friend is a state-wide, community effort with people volunteering to call at least five friends (age 40 and over) to encourage them to get a mammogram. Again this year, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) will partner with ACS to help make this event a success.

There are many reasons why women say "no" to having a mammogram. They might feel they don't have time, they've heard that it hurts, they're too embarrassed, or maybe their doctor never

recommended a mammogram. Whatever the reason, a friend's words of encouragement could make the difference.

BCCCP invites all providers to participate in Tell-A-Friend. Providers can contribute by becoming volunteer coordinators, being volunteer callers, and/or by promoting awareness of the importance of mammography within their community.

The program is based on research that shows that roughly 25 percent of all women who get mammograms do so because a friend encouraged them. The goal is to contact 30,000 women, the number of women reached in last year's campaign.

Participate in this opportunity to spread the word about early detection of breast cancer and help the women in your life.

All providers will receive an information kit about Tell-A-Friend. Providers can encourage staff, client, or community participation in Tell A Friend. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Clare Wolf, Information Specialist at (800) 452-1955.



Tell A Friend
A mammogram could save her life.

Mission

The mission of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce the impact of breast and cervical cancer in Texas by promoting access to quality information, screening, diagnosis and treatment in Texas communities.

Goal

The goal of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce premature mortality from breast cancer and cervical cancer in Texas.

Ask the Expert



Does the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) have postcards for providers to use to remind women when it's time for their annual mammogram screening?



The BCCCP office has redesigned and printed reminder cards for mammography rescreening that include English and Spanish on the same card. The cards are available to BCCCP providers at no cost. Contact Clare Wolf, Information Specialist, at (800) 452-1955.

Don't forget, you can submit your own questions on any subject related to the program such as nursing, case management, billing, data or outreach. Send questions to Clare Wolf, Information Specialist, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199.

Verifying Pap

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) remove "verifying Pap" as a separate procedure from our data forms. CDC considers a Pap test to be a screening procedure. BCCCP has removed this procedure from our forms and will no longer record a simultaneous Pap test with Colposcopy with Biopsy. If you have any questions contact Karen McAnarney, R.N., Nurse Consultant, at (800) 452-1955.

Cervical Policy Changes - Outreach Strategies

This is the second in a series of articles outlining the cervical policy changes

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued several changes to the cervical policy. The changes are as a result of a careful review of medical literature and data. The new policy prioritizes women who have never received a Pap test or have not received a Pap test within the past five years as the priority population for cervical cancer screening. These women are at a greater risk for developing cervical cancer.

Who are these unscreened and underscreened women? They consist of women who are older, uninsured, or poor. They are women who are members of ethnic minorities or who live in rural areas. They are women with HIV or with disabilities.

To assure that providers are reaching the population most at risk, the Breast and Cervical Cancer

Control Program (BCCCP) will require that 20 percent of women enrolled in BCCCP have either never been screened for cervical cancer or have not been screened within the past five years.

Reaching these women will involve a variety of outreach strategies. Education and recruitment strategies are critical. Potential activities might include providers evaluating the way they provide services to women. Changing your hours of operation, setting up information centers at churches, or using church bulletins may assist in reaching women. Since many women have said their physician has never recommended screening for cervical cancer, interventions aimed at health professionals may increase referrals. Providers could offer cancer

screening education when the unscreened or underscreened woman enters the health care system for other health reasons.

For assistance on outreach strategies to reach women who are underscreened contact Claudia Himes, R.N., Nurse Consultant, at (800) 452-1955.

Help us
serve
you
better!



Please complete the enclosed survey. Let us know what you want to see in the **Commitment**.

Rates/CPT Codes

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CPT 88150 is the code needed for reimbursement of a conventional Pap test. The new rate for this code will be \$14.60.

Ninety percent of conventional Pap test reimbursements should use the CPT code 88150. The majority of these Pap tests are read by a cytologist technician. In the event of an abnormal or reparative slide, the Pap test is read by a physician. When a physician interpretation is necessary, CPT code 88141 should be used in conjunction with the CPT code 88150. If you have any questions regarding these rates, contact Kathy Kokel, Contract Specialist, at (800) 452-1955.

For information about Thin Prep reimbursement contact Karen McAnarney, R.N., or Claudia Himes, R.N., Nurse Consultants, at (800) 452-1955.

Texas BCCCP*

Women Served:
122,965
Breast Screenings:
160,889
Cervical Screenings:
116,451
Breast Cancers:
823
Cervical Carcinoma in situ:
1,691
Invasive Cervical Cancer:
61
Rescreening
35%
Women 50 - 64
87%

*As of July 10, 2000

Summer Training

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answers at the end of each session.

For more information on the summer training agenda contact Robert Reeves, Program Administrator, and for travel information contact Cathy Cox, Administrative Technician, at (800) 452-1955.

Important Dates

August

August 1-7 World Breastfeeding Week
August 3 - Training - Austin
August 14 - Training - Dallas
August 16-17 - Training - El Paso
August 21 - Training - Houston
August 23-24 - Training - Harlingen

September

September - Gynecologic and Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month
September 4 - Labor Day
State Office Closed
September 23 - Race for the Cure - Lubbock

October

October - National Breast Cancer Awareness Month
October 6 - Breast Cancer Awareness Day in Texas
October 6 - Tell-A-Friend Kickoff
October 6 - Lee Denim Day
October 7 - Race for the Cure - Amarillo & Houston
October 14 - Race for the Cure - Wichita Falls
October 21 - Race for the Cure - Dallas & Texarkana

November

November - National Diabetes Month
November 5 - Race for the Cure - Austin

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Commitment

A monthly bulletin

Send news/information to:

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